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### Traveling exhibit and related activities explore Jazz Age

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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This release is available electronically on INN (News Net.)

Jan. 20, 2000

**Contact:** Harriet Ranney, Mansfield Library, 243-6810.

### **TRAVELING EXHIBIT AND RELATED ACTIVITIES EXPLORE JAZZ AGE**

#### **MISSOULA--**

The music, literature, dances and art of the jazz age in Paris will come alive in Missoula during an exhibit and accompanying series of performances and lectures in February and March.

"The Jazz Age in Paris: 1914-1940," a Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibit, will be displayed Feb. 10-March 23 at the Missoula Public Library. Missoula is among only 28 libraries in the United States to host the traveling exhibit, which is based on a large-scale show presented at the Smithsonian in 1997. The University of Montana Mansfield Library is a co-sponsor of the exhibit and related events.

The Missoula display opens Thursday, Feb. 10, with a 7 p.m. reception at the Missoula Public Library. Both the exhibit and reception are free and open to the public.

The exhibit brings to life in words, pictures and music the early jazz movement in Europe, its American roots, and the exuberant cafe and cabaret musical culture of the City of Light between the two world wars. It is the story of a unique blending of cultures -- American, European and African -- that produced a style influential around the world.

"The Jazz Age in Paris" offers insights into how the American expatriate population in

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Paris and the European avant garde helped shape a glamorous cabaret culture in the 1920s and 1930s. Musicians and performers such as James Reese Europe, Josephine Baker, Ada "Bricktop" Smith and Django Reinhardt are featured in the exhibit. A video allows visitors to listen to music of the era and hear reminiscences of surviving jazz-age musicians and performers.

Other public events with the jazz-age theme will include:

**Tuesday, Feb. 1**

- 2 p.m. -- Jazz seminar with Billy Taylor. UM Music Recital Hall. Free.
- 8 p.m. -- "Jazz as a Metaphor for Democracy," President's Lecture by Billy Taylor, jazz historian. University Theatre. Free.
- Opening -- "Missoula Jazz, Main Street, MT," exhibit, through March 31. Historical Museum at Fort Missoula. Admission charge.

**Wednesday, Feb. 2**

- 7:30 p.m. -- The Billy Taylor Trio jazz concert. University Theatre. Tickets available at Tic-It-E-Z outlets or by calling (888) 842-4830.

**Friday, Feb. 4**

- Opening -- "New Work: Sound Construction," Patrick Zentz art exhibit, through March 31. Paxson Corridor Gallery of the Museum of Fine Arts, UM Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center. Free. Reception from 5-7 p.m. in the lobby.
- Opening -- "Art Riffs," images of jazz from the Joseph Sample Collection, through March 31. Meloy Gallery of the Museum of Fine Arts, UM Performing



Arts and Radio/Television Center. Free. Reception from 5-7 p.m. in the lobby.

**Sunday, Feb. 6**

- 5 p.m. -- "Paris Was a Woman," film, through Feb. 10. New Crystal Theatre.  
Admission charge.
- 1:30 p.m. -- "Harlem to Paris," jazz radio program with Joe Korona, Sundays  
through March 19. KUFM 91.7 FM in Missoula.

**Saturday, Feb. 12**

- 7:30 p.m. -- Gershwin's "American in Paris," Missoula Symphony Orchestra.  
Wilma Theatre. Tickets are \$7 to \$21; call (406) 721-3194.

**Sunday, Feb. 13**

- 3 p.m. -- Gershwin's "American in Paris," Missoula Symphony Orchestra.  
Wilma Theatre. Tickets are \$7 to \$21; call (406) 721-3194.

**Tuesday, Feb. 15**

- 7:30 p.m. -- "Hemingway's Paris," lecture, UM English Professor Gerry  
Brenner. Missoula Public Library. Free.

**Wednesday, Feb. 16**

- 7:30 p.m. -- "Le Jazz dans la Literature Francophone," lecture, New York  
University French Assistant Professor Sylvie Kande. Missoula Public Library.  
Free.

**Thursday, Feb. 17**

- 7:30 p.m. -- "Life of Django Reinhardt," lecture, UM radio-television  
Professor Bill Knowles. Missoula Public Library. Free.



**Friday, Feb. 18**

- 8 p.m. -- Jazz-age dance with retired UM dance Professor Juliette Crump and dancers: "Le Jazz Hot" Daren Eastwold; "Black and White" (Charleston), MoTrans; "Ballroom Dances," Martha Jane Newby. Senior Citizen Center. Free.

**Tuesday, Feb. 22**

- 7:30 p.m. -- "It Just Catches: the Hemingway Project," Montana Repertory Theatre, through Feb. 25. UM Montana Theatre. Tickets are \$12 general, \$10 senior citizens and students, at the Performing Arts and Radio-Television Center or University Center box offices. Call (406) 243-4581 or 243-4999.

**Wednesday, Feb. 23**

- 7:30 p.m. -- "The Jazz Age in America, lecture," UM history Associate Professor Michael Mayer. Missoula Public Library. Free.

**Tuesday, Feb. 29**

- 7:30 p.m. -- "Stein, Picasso, Louis Armstrong," lecture, UM English Professor Emeritus Bill Bevis. Missoula Public Library. Free.

**Friday, March 3**

- 7:30 p.m. -- UM Jazz Bands Winter Concert. University Theatre. Admission is \$4 general or \$2 for students and senior citizens.

**Saturday, March 4**

- 7:30 p.m. -- Britten's "War Requiem," Missoula Symphony Orchestra. University Theatre. Tickets are \$7 to \$21; call (406) 721-3194.



**Sunday, March 5**

- 3 p.m. -- Britten's "War Requiem," Missoula Symphony Orchestra. University Theatre. Tickets are \$7 to \$21; call (406) 721-3194.

**Tuesday, March 7**

- 7:30 p.m. -- "Sidney Bechet's Life," lecture, UM radio-television Professor Bill Knowles. Missoula Public Library. Free.

**Thursday, March 9**

- 7:30 p.m. -- "Jazz and Blues Motifs in Sartre's 'La Nause,'" UM French Associate Professor Chris Anderson. Missoula Public Library. Free.

**Friday, March 10**

- 7:30 p.m. -- Visiting artist lecture with Patrick Zentz. UM Social Science Building, Room 356. Free.

**Monday, March 13**

- "Jazz it Up: Jazz and the Cinematographic French New Wave," UM French Associate Professor Michel Valentin. Missoula Public Library. Free.

**Wednesday, March 15**

- 7:30 p.m. -- "Paris and Food," UM anthropology Visiting Instructor Garry Kerr. Missoula Public Library. Free.

**Thursday, March 16**

- 7:30 p.m. -- Jazz concert by Missoula County high school bands. Hellgate High School. Free.

"The Jazz Age in Paris, 1914-1940," is organized by the Smithsonian Institution



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Traveling Exhibition Service and the American Library Association. It has been made possible through the support of the National Endowment for the Humanities. The exhibit is part of "America's Jazz Heritage," a Partnership of the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund and the Smithsonian Institution.

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